OSCILLATOR

OTVARC

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club(Est. 1978) August, 1998

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Betty, N7REX

Summer has finally arrived, just in time for the deluge of public service events. I for one hope the next three weekends are cooler than the middle of this week has been. The cyclists for the three events hope so too. 90 degree plus temperatures are not ideal for these events. Mid 70s would be great.

By the time this message reaches your mailbox, all three events probably will have been completed. They are the Summit to Surf (American Diabetes Association), MS 150 (National Multiple Sclerosis Society), and the Bridge Peddle. I hope all of you who are interested in helping got a chance to do so.

There are a number of events planned in the near future, so don't be shy about offering to help. *Remember*, the people in charge of these events don't have quick access to the membership profiles, so they may not know that public service is one of your areas of interest.

Speaking of the future, the September meeting is our annual tail gate swap meet. So dust off all those 'toys' or 'treasures' and get them ready for sale. We are also planning to have a silent auction of some old, I mean really old, QSTs, some hard cover ham radio books, and some other miscellaneous items from the storage at Dee Lynch's warehouse.

For those of you who don't know, Dee, K7JRB, has been the gracious keeper of our stuff for about 15 years. He is remodeling and has asked us to condense our stored belongings. A special thanks to Al, W7SIC, and Charley Mickley, who along with me, spent an afternoon working on this project.

If you have items to sell, and you would like the proceeds to go into the club account, you are welcome to put them in the silent auction as well. Also if you have a few hand crafted items you would like to sell, bring them along (Al, W7SIC, those fold up camp tables come to mind. Trudi, KB7WJN, those jewelry pieces would be good. Norma, those casserole carry cases would be a hit, etc., etc., etc.)

We have so many talented creative people in the club and we seldom have an opportunity to display or show off our talents. Lets make this a time to buy and sell ham equipment, but also a time to rejoice in the many talents of our club members. So mark your September calendar and plan to attend.

In addition, future club plans involve our club's commitment to advancement of the hobby. *(continued on page 2)*

NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH

This months program will be an interesting and informative one — it will be a presentation on TRI MET communications, and especially the systems used on the new West Side Lite Rail line.

We will learn about the use of fiber optics and how Tri Met communicates in the mile long tunnel under the West Hills.

Mary Fletcher, Public Affairs/Tri Met Communications, is arranging the program. Handouts will be distributed.

1998 - TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

(continued from page 1 - President's Message)
Jim Mockley, AB7XD, and Maureen O'Rourke, KA7LAP, have been putting together an upgrade plan. Details will follow in future newsletters, but we will be offering mini classes for Tech, with video loans for General and Advanced. Thank you Jim and Maureen for all your work.

The club is looking for a few good hams. First, by the August general meeting, we need to have at least three people who will volunteer (must be members for at least 2 years) to be on the election committee. If interested, please get in touch with Van, KE7BB, or Janet, WB7FJC. Second, by the September general meeting, we need to have a committee who will work on putting together the *club holiday party*. If interested, contact JD, K7JDF, or me.

Raffle tickets for the regional picnic in September will be on sale again this month (see page XX for details). Geno, KB7KBH, will be back at his job of ticket selling. We wish to thank Chuck, KI7CL, for his help with the raffle last month.

I publicly apologize to our new member Jerry Roberts, KI7TA. I must have had a brain hiccup or temporary dyslexia. Sorry! I wrote his membership application for him and misspelled his name. Welcome to the club Jerry. Betty, N7REX

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FIELD DAY 1998 IS OVER!

By Alan, KB7POR

If you were planning to go to Field Day this year you are now officially too late. OTVARC celebrated Field Day on June 26, 27, 28, 1998 at Willamette Mission State Park. The venue provided us with a great camping opportunity, both for the houses on wheels and the small pieces of nylon. We also had an opportunity to see the wide variety of hobbies active in the great land of ours.

In the area next to us the Society for Creative Anachronism was hanging out. For those who are not familiar with the SCA, these are the people who reenact the Middle Ages, or something like that. For more details contact Janet Bell WB7FJC.

So back to the radio people. Based on the sign in near the food location (where better to count everybody) we had 64 people attend Field Day. Many of these people operated radios and made contacts. Some of them came just to celebrate two significant birthdays. Betty Mickley N7REX (a.k.a. President) and Jim Schaeffer KB7ADH (a.k.a. AAAAAADH) both celebrate birthdays on July 2 every year. We took advantage of the occasion to have a party Saturday night.

Speaking of food. Obviously practice makes perfect. The OTVARC Travelers go out every month and practice potlucks just so they can put on the perfect one for Field Day. Anyone who came to dinner Saturday night can attest to this. A big word of thanks to those who fed the masses. Otherwise the stations ran on Dorritos, coffee, and Coke.

This year we added a new station to the OTVARC setup. Eric Margeson, KA6OSN, asked if he could run a QRP HF station. Of course I said yes. For those of you who are used to seeing aluminum in the air, Eric's antenna was a surprise. He built a 40m beam out of wire and string. He only made 140 contacts on 1 band while running 10 watts of solar power.

Of course we had the usual HF Phone station in the club trailer, the Novice/Tech station in the Jack in the Box and the Carl and Stan Show, the HF CW station. We had a VHF/UHF station on the air again this year (the sporadic E spirits were good this year).

The Novice/Tech station overcame adversities, like no power cable for the radio, to pull in 76 contacts. Carl and Stan again tried to outdo all the other stations combined with 451 contacts. The rest of the team turned in 478 contacts. Carl and Stan cheated by using a computer to do the work; all they had to do was stay awake all night.

A word of warning about the HF CW station, it grows antennas. The longer they were on he air, the more antennas that appeared around the tent.

Many stories were shared at the last meeting. If you think that Field Day is boring, talk to some of the folks who were there. The friendship at the site is great and the radio contacts run from fun to exciting. If you were there, you know what I am saying, if not come on out next year.

The date is the same each year, the last full weekend in June. Don't let that UTC time fool you, even you can get the date put on your calendar.

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AEA OK FINANCIALLY

From Amateur Newsline

AEA/Tempo is not affected by Timewave filing of Chapter 11 says Mike Lamb, N7ML, of AEA/Tempo. He says the company is financially sound and has no connection whatsoever to the recent Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing by Timewave. Lamb said some hams have confused AEA/Tempo and Timewave, both of which purchased different portions of the former AEA product line last year.

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A few good people are needed!
Always wanted to help set the direction of the club?
Now is your chance — Volunteer to be a candidate
for next years officer slate.

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ARRL LICENSING PROPOSAL

From The ARRL

ARRL Proposes Simplified Amateur License Structure

The ARRL Board has agreed to propose a simplified Amateur Radio licensing structure containing four classes. Lengthy discussion and debate during the Board's meeting July 16-18 led to majority support for a plan for four written examination elements to establish amateurs' operational and technical qualifications instead of the present five, and two Morse code examination elements instead of the present three.

Under the plan adopted by the Board, the entry level to Amateur Radio would be known as Class D and would convey the privileges of the present Technician license. The written examination would be at the same level of difficulty as that of the present Technician examination, but consistent with the privileges of the license. All amateurs now licensed as Technicians would become Class D.

The next step would be known as Class C and would convey the privileges of the present General license, but with phone subbands expanded by 50 Khz on 75 and 15 meters and by 25 Khz on 40 meters. Class C would be the entry level to high frequency (HF) operating privileges. To upgrade from Class D to Class C, an amateur would pass a written examination on the operational and technical qualifications required for HF operation and a 5 word per minute Morse code examination. All amateurs now licensed as General, Technician Plus, and Novice would become Class C. The expansion of the telephony sub-bands would result from "refarming" of the Novice CW bands that are no longer required for their original purpose.

The third step would be known as Class B and would convey the privileges of the present Advanced license, but with phone subands expanded by 50 Khz on 75 and 15 meters and by 25 Khz on 40 meters. To upgrade from Class C to Class B, an amateur would pass a more advanced written examination similar in difficulty to the present Element 4A and a 12 word per minute Morse code examination. All amateurs now licensed as Advanced would become Class B.

The final step would be known as Class A and would convey the full privileges of the present Amateur Extra Class, with telephony sub-bands expanded by 50 Khz on 75 and 15 meters and by 25 Khz on 40 meters. To upgrade from Class B to Class A, an amateur would be required to pass the most difficult written examination in the sequence. Consistent with the practice in many other countries, no additional Morse code examination would be required beyond 12 words per minute. All amateurs presently licensed as Amateur Extra Class would become Class A.

In their discussions, Board members emphasized that the objective is to rationalize and simplify the amateur licensing structure without reducing the requirements for any class of license. Where reductions in Morse code requirements are proposed, there would be a corresponding increase in written examination standards. On the other hand, Board members were adamant that simplifying the structure should not come at the expense of privileges already earned by amateurs. Therefore, present Novice and Technician Plus licensees, having earned entry-level HF operating privileges, would be granted the new entry-level HF license.

Adoption of the simplification plan marks the culmination of 30 months of work by the Board, during which time the input of literally thousands of ARRL members and other amateurs and prospective amateurs was considered. The Board debated a wide variety of options including both smaller and larger numbers of license classes, higher and lower qualification levels, and different privileges. Nine of the 15 Directors voted in favor of the plan, with six opposed. Following the meeting ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, observed, "The debate was at times contentious and the result was not unanimous. Some Board members preferred greater simplification; others were uncomfortable with some of the changes being proposed. However, every Board member, without exception, left the meeting knowing that each of his or her colleagues did what they believe is best for the future of Amateur Radio."

Members are urged to contact their ARRL directors to comment on this proposal. E-mail addresses are on page 10 of any issue of QST. Members also may comment on the proposal via the ARRL Web site, http://www.arrl.org or via e-mail at **restrux@arrl.org.**

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AMATEUR GROWTH NIL!

From Amateur Newsline

The numbers are in – the numbers are bad! There are some startling statistics about the growth – or lack of growth in Amateur Radio.

The July 1st edition of Fred Maia's W5YI Report says it all. According to Maia – who is also the nations second largest VEC – the total number of U.S. licensed Amateur Radio operators grew by less than one percent in the period from June 1997 to June 1998.

This is the smallest gain in the issuance of new ham radio licenses since record keeping began in 1978 and it does not take into account an estimated 41,000 amateurs whose licenses have expired but are being carried on the books under the federal two year grace period.

Even more startling is that license classes that require an applicant to show proficiency in the Morse code showed a net loss of 2.3 percent. In fact, the only good news says Maia is with the basic codefree Techs. Their numbers grew again by an unexpected seven 7.5 percent. In simpler terms, one in every four hams now licensed is a codeless Tech.

Maia says that the number of people taking Amateur Radio examinations peaked in 1992. That was the year following the introduction of the codeless Technician class and during that period 115,852 applicants were tested. Since then the number has been steadily decreasing.

It reached its low point in the period from June 1st 1997 to May 31st, 1998. Only 61,245 people were examined during that time frame. That, says Maia, is nearly a fifty percent drop.

It also does not bode well for the long term growth in ham radio in the United States.

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MEMORIES OF 1956

By Ken Davenport

The article "Achtung," by Neil, KA7KLA, in the July issue of the *Oscillator*, brought back some memories of 1956.

I was an engineer at the IBM San Jose, California Research Laboratory. We developed the first rotating disk memory. Quite different than the hard disks and floppy disks in use now, but that was 42 years ago. It was a stack of fifty, thirty six inch diameter disks, one-eighth of an inch thick, coated on both sides with a red oxide paint. It worked with vacuum tubes, etc. – a very large unit.

We sent the unit to the IBM facility near Stuttgart, Germany, to an IBM World Trade Conference. Enclosed in the packing crate with the disk unit, so that it would not be missed by those opening the crate, was a large label which said:

ACHTUNG

Das Machine is nicht fur gefingerpoken und mit grabben. Ist easy schnappen der springenwerk blowen fusan und corkenpoppen mit spitzensparken. Ist nicht fur gewerken by das Dummkopfen. Das rubbernecken sightseeren keepen hands in das pockets. Relaxen und watch das blinkenlights!

The crate had been opened by the time I arrived in Germany – I have always wondered about the reaction of the technicians that opened the crate.

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PACIFICON '98 AMATEUR RADIO CONVENTION

By Editor, W7OTV

The Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC) sent the club a brochure containing information on the Amateur Radio Convention at the Airport Sheraton Hotel in Concord, CA. This is a new location for Pacificon '98, with more space and better facilities. The Sheraton Hotel is at Concord's Buchanan Airport.

Concord is located 28 miles east of San Franciso and is bisected by California 680.

The dates of the Convention are October 16, 17 and 18 – Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For more info write: PACIFICON '98
PO BOX 272613
Concord, CA 94527

Call: 925-932-6125
E-mail: **PACIFICON@designlink.com**
WWW: **http://www.mdarc.org**

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FIELD DAY HELPERS

By Pete Kemp, KZ1Z
From Amateur Newsline

A LIGHTER LOOK AT FIELD DAY— SOME TIPS

☑You can compress the diameter of your rolled up sleeping bag by running over it with your car. This technique may also be used to make a folded dipole.

☑A potato baked in the coals for one hour makes an excellent side dish. Apotato baked in the coals for three hours makes an excellent counter-weight for hurling a leader line over a tree limb.

☑You can start a fire without matches by eating Mexican food, then breathing on a pile of dry sticks while keying your H-T.

☑In emergency situations, you can survive in the wilderness by shooting small game with a slingshot made from the elastic waistband of your underwear. This trick also works for stringing wire antennas.

☑The guitar at the next campsite makes excellent kindling. The strings may be used for a VHF/UHF antenna.

☑A large carp can be used for a pillow or as a ground for maritime mobile stations.

☑Check the washing instructions before purchasing any apparel to be worn on Field Day. Buy only those that read "Beat on a rock in stream" or "Can be dried by HF RF."

☑Effective January 1, 1998, you will actually have to enlist in the Swiss Army to get a Swiss Army knife. Contacts with HB stations do not count for bonus points, however.

☑Bear bells provide an element of safety for Field Day operators in grizzly country. The tricky part is getting them on the bears.

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SENIOR JUDGE MILNES TAKES HEALTH LEAVE

Excerpts from The Oregonian

Judge Greg Milnes, W7AGQ, a long time member of OTVARC, recently began a medical leave from his position as a Washington County Judge for an undefined length of time.

Greg said he needs time away from the daily grind to focus on improving his health. He said it is not a terminal illness.

"I look at it as a positive thing," he said. "I don't know when I'll be back, but I can now spend time on getting better."

Oregon Chief Justice Wallace P. Carson, who granted Greg's leave, said the Greg's position is still filled. "The expectation is that when he gains his health, he will be back."

Lets all wish Greg a speedy recovery and good DXing during his recuperation.

SUMMIT TO SURF '98

By Betty, N7REX

A few good people braved the elements (this time 90+ temperatures) to provide communications for the third annual Summit to Surf Bicycle Tour sponsored by the American Diabetes Association. They were: Betty Mickley, N7REX; Alan Chinnock, KB7POR; Jim Schaeffer, KB7ADH; Geno Grey, K7GY; Ernie Johnson, KC7PMZ; Mel Sutton KB7PVW; Linda Sutton, KC7YTD; Chuck Mickley, KI7CL; Clair Johnson, KC7PMW; and Ivan Bork, KC7DWU. This year we missed Will, N7THL, (hope the flue has gone away) and JD, K7JDF, traveling with his son Evin (hope you had a great vacation).

Kevin Finn, tour director for the American Diabetes Association, extends thanks to OTVARC for again providing communications for the event.

The Summit to Surf Bicycle Tour is a 54 mile ride over mountainous terrain from Welches to Hood River, with a challenge section going to Timberline Lodge. In order to provide the expected communications under most conditions, the ham radio operators needed to have a mobile rig with 25-40 watts output and an appropriate roof mount antenna.

Because we use both 2 meter and 440 frequencies for our primary communications, we also needed all of our mobile volunteers to have dual band radios. Thanks to Randy, KZ7TR, for the use of a dual band and mag mount antenna. Also thanks to Alan for technical assistance during the event and the loan of a radio (Alan is the quintessential Boy Scout – always prepared).

Rest stop communicators were asked to keep a running tally of the cyclists. This was not always an easy job. Harold sometimes had 50 people at a time at his rest stop. Jim had about 20% of the registered cyclists take the challenge course. Chuck and Linda both had cyclists arrive on site before the volunteers. Thanks for opening boxes and setting out 'goodies.'

In addition Linda had cyclists ride past the rest stop, then reconsider, turn around and come back for supplies. Mel had to switch plans at the last minute to cover for Will. Ernie got the "sitting backwards in the back of the ambulance" job – not for the prone to motion sickness group. He and I both had unfamiliar 'borrowed' radios to deal with.

Geno volunteered as the sweep. Sweep is one of the dullest jobs, but absolutely vital. Sweep follows the last rider all the way to the finish. The upside of being sweep is that you are the most popular person at the rest stops. Linda and Claire, who had the last two rest stops in the Hood River Valley 'inferno,' were thrilled (you could hear the joy in their voices) to see him.

Ivan, our only non-club member, was at finish. Fortunately he is used to the heat. He lives in The Dalles. All but one of the 457 cyclists completed the course. One rider took himself out at Bennett Pass, which I found interesting. He had already scaled the four summits – Government Camp at 3,400 feet, Timberline at 6000 feet, Barlow Pass at 4161 feet and Bennett Pass at 4647 feet. The rest was essentially downhill to Hood River at 84 feet.

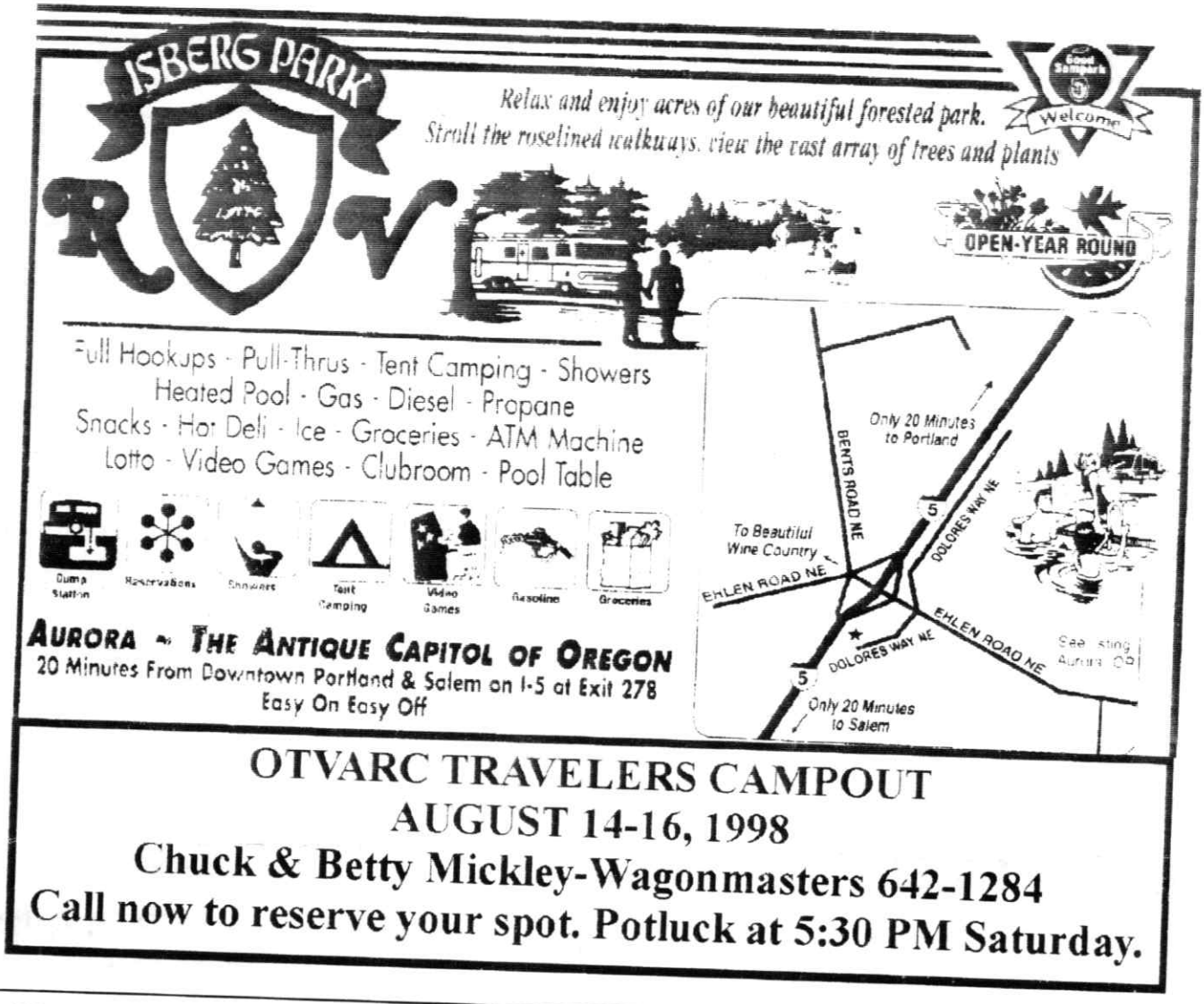
OTVARC expresses thanks to ARRG and the Northwest Repeater Association who authorized our use of their repeaters . The local repeater associations are a wonderful resource, both to amateurs and to the public at large.

DIVISION HAMFESTS AND CONVENTIONS

By Mary Lou, NM7N
Northwest Division Director

Aug. 8	Bend Hamfair, Deschutes Cnty. Fairgrounds, Redmond, OR
Aug. 8	Tacoma Fleamarket, Tacoma, WA
Aug. 15	LCARA, Longview, WA
Sept. 12	Umpqua Valley Hamfest
Sept. 19-20	Anchorage Hamfest, Anchorage, AK
Sept. 26-27	Fairbanks Hamfest, Fairbanks, AK
Sept. 26-27	Walla Walla Hamfest
Oct. 3	Nampa Hamfest, Nampa, ID
Oct. 10	North Kitsap Hamfest, Silverdale, WA
Oct. 17	Gallatin ARC Hamfest, Bozeman, MT
Oct. 18	Chehalis Valley Hamfest, Chehalis, WA
Oct. 24	Bellingham Fleamarket, Ferndale, WA
Oct. 24	Rickreall Fleamarket
June 4-5	1999 - SEAPAC, Seaside, OR

When we wonder why our kids go wrong, maybe we ought to ask our bathroom mirror!



OTVARC TRAVELERS CAMPOUT
AUGUST 14-16, 1998
Chuck & Betty Mickley-Wagonmasters 642-1284
Call now to reserve your spot. Potluck at 5:30 PM Saturday.

CLARK COUNTY ARC CW PRACTICE

From the Rocking Chair Copy

Morse code practice is now on the air. This is for anyone who wants to break the ice by sending and receiving live code on the air. Join us on 28.250 and 28.270 each Tuesday and Wednesday evening at 9PM.

We are setup to help the uninitiated code people. Your ability or experience does not matter. The idea is to have you prove to yourself that you can, in fact, participate in on-the-air Morse contacts.

If you feel that you do not know the Morse characters well enough, keep a listing next to your key and use it to send the letters and characters. If the speed is too fast, ask the control operator to "QRS" — this means "slow down."

We are on the air to help you in learning and participating. These live practice sessions will continue until everyone feels they are qualified to continue on their own.

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LONGVIEW, WASHINGTON SWAP MEET

By Editor, W7OTV

The Cowlitz County Fair grounds is the location for the 7TH Annual Ham Radio, Computer, & Electronic Swap Meet on Saturday, August 15TH, 9AM to 3PM. The fairgrounds are also called the Expo Center.

Admission is $3, Tailgate spaces are $5, Tables are $12 ($15 after July 3), and Commercial Tables are $15. RV parking is $10 with some hookups available. 14,000 square feet inside, with over 100 tables available. The tailgate sales area is outside.

The talk-in frequency is 147.26+ on the K7ZVV repeater. Assorted door prizes will be awarded and food concessions will be available.

Call Bob, KB7ADO, at 360-425-6076 or Randy, NU7D, at 360-425-9184 if you need more information. E-mail inquires t **KB7ADO@aol.com**

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MARITIME MORSE IS TAPPED OUT

From the W5YI REPORT
Reuters News Service - July 6, 1998

Morse code – which has signaled disasters at sea since the sinking of the Titanic – is slipping silently into the sea. As of February 1999, passenger and cargo ships of 300 gross tons or more will no longer use Morse code for SOS calls.

The beginning of the end came in 1988, when an international treaty on safety and rescue at sea was amended to phase out Morse worldwide, beginning in 1992, in favor of the satellite communications setup dubbed the *Global Maritime Distress and Safety System.*

US civilian ships dropped Morse for distress calls in 1995. On 31 January 1997, France's coast guard tapped out its final, poetic message -- "Calling all. This is our last cry before our eternal silence."

The fading away of Morse at sea provides food for thought on how new technologies change the world, only to fall by the wayside when the next new thing comes along.

The telegraph was the information superhighway of the 19th century, enabling rapid communication between distant cities and across oceans. The first public telegram was sent from Washington DC to Baltimore in 1844 by inventor and artist Samuel F.B. Morse, who tapped out "What hath God wrought?" in a demo for Congress.

The first sea rescue resulting from a radio telegraph message came in 1899, when a lightship in the Dover Straits reported the grounding of the steamship Elbe, according to the International Maritime Organization, a UN agency.

But it was the legendary sinking of the Titanic in 1912 and the loss of more than 1,500 lives that spurred the use of radio by ships at sea. Although 700 people were saved when the liner Carpathia picked up the Titanic's distress call, fewer might have died had the California, which was relatively close to the Titanic, also received the doomed ship's call for help. The California's wireless operator was off duty.

Three months after the disaster, an international conference in London decided that, while all ships did not have to have radio equipment aboard, some craft should have to maintain a permanent radio watch.

At the same 1912 conference, the letters "SOS" – dot dot dot, dash dash dash, dot dot dot in Morse – were adopted as the international distress call. Before, it had been "CQD."

"Contrary to popular myth, the letters are not an abbreviation (for 'Save Our Souls') and have no special significance except that ... (they are) easy to remember and transmit in the Morse code," the International Maritime Organization said in a paper on the subject.

As time passed, Morse began losing some of its importance at sea. As early as 1907, a radiotelephone was installed on a Hudson River ferry boat by Lee De Forest, whose invention of an electronic component made wireless voice communication possible.

In 1975, radiotelephone equipment was recommended for all ships more than 300 gross tons by the International Maritime Organization. Six years later, it was made mandatory in an amendment to the treaty known as the International Convention on the Safety of Lives at Sea.

Why scrap conventional radio in favor of satellites? According to the International Maritime Organization, its drawbacks include, in the case of Morse, the need for years of training and practice.

There are other reasons, too: reception problems, uncertainty of the message being received and the airwave congestion that came with the development of radio on land.

So what's taking old-fashioned radio's place? A network of satellites: two positioned above the Atlantic Ocean and one each over the Indian Ocean and the Pacific. Only the North and South poles, where shipping is infrequent, go uncovered.

Big cargo ships and passenger liners will also have to carry equipment designed to improve the chances of rescue, including satellite radio beacons to indicate a vessel's location in an emergency and search-and-rescue transponders for ships and survival craft.

This is not to say that Morse is dead. The US military still uses Morse. On Navy ships, for example, sailors have to know how to use lights to flash out ship-to-ship messages in the code. And the Federal Communications Commission requires proficiency in Morse for some amateur radio licenses.

Morse has its fans. Recent searches of the Web and discussion groups on the Internet turned up thousands of Web pages and hundreds of discussion group postings containing the words "Morse code." Which leads one to wonder what will overtake the Internet, where it will come from, and when.

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OTVARC BUNCH FOR LUNCH

By Harold, WA0BRU

The *County Buffet* at 13500 SW Pacific Hiway, in Tigard, is the location for the August 22nd gathering. As usual the time is 1:30PM. The restaurant is located in the Market Place Shopping Mall where the Bi-Mart store is located.

Everyone and anyone is invited — come on down and have fun with the group — you'll enjoy both the food and friends.

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SEVEN ELEMENT YAGI BEAM

By Al, W7SIC

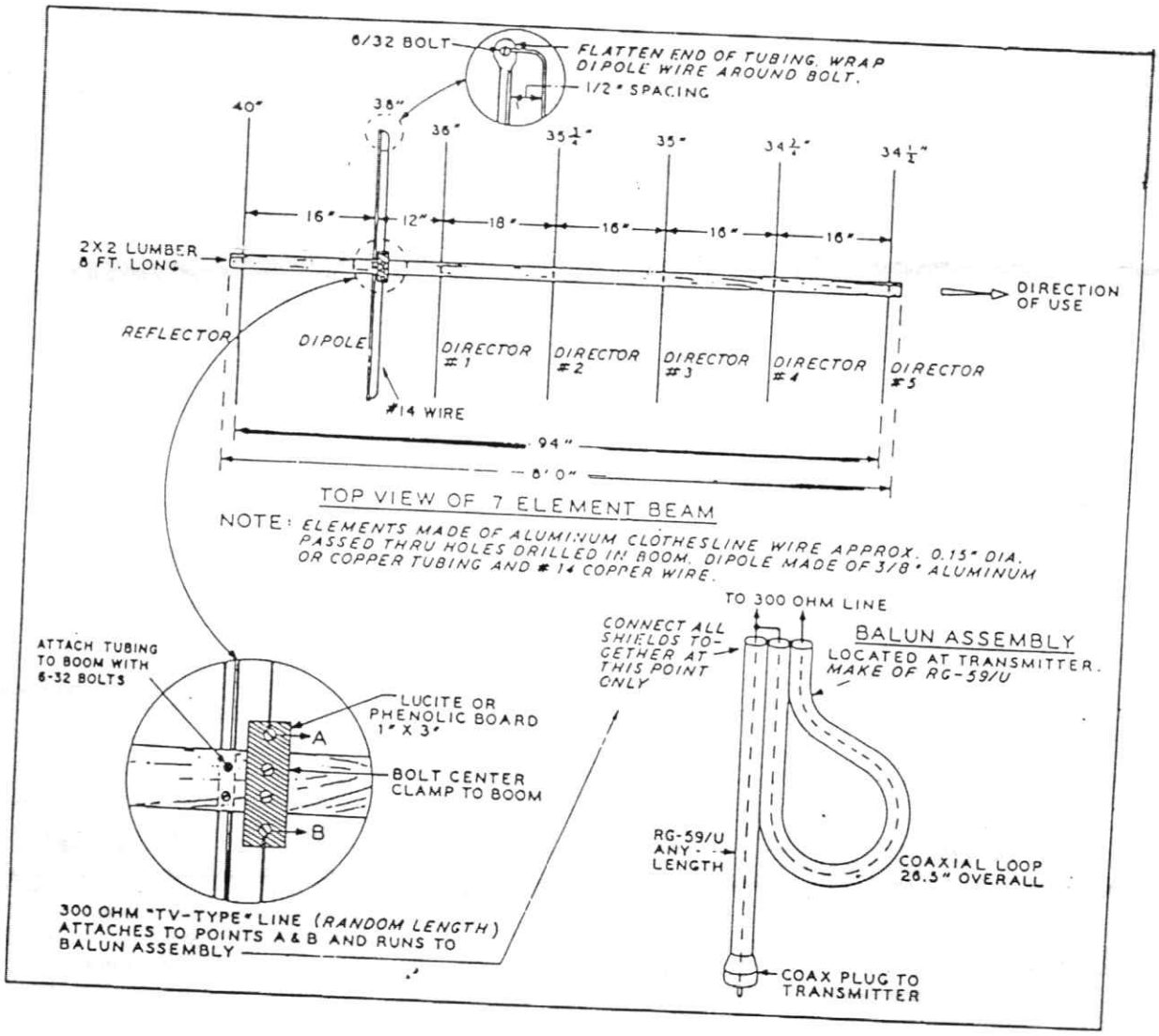
This seven element Yagi beam for the 2 meter band provides an 11 decibel power gain over a dipole. The beam may be mounted either horizontally or vertically, depending on the polarization desired. Dimensions shown are for 144Mhz. For operation over 146 to 148Mhz, all element lengths should be reduced by one-half inch.

This antenna has worked out very well for me, and in fact, I have had it up for several years at my campsite near Fishhawk Lake. It has held up perfectly under some very severe weather conditions and the best part is it costs under $20 to build.

It was tested, on simplex, from Hillsboro to Beaverton. The homebrew antenna was on a 10 foot pole above my driveway and was compared to my 11 element Cushcraft at 40 feet. The receive on both ends was the same.

The only deviation from the plan was in the element material used – I found some sturdy steel wire which is used in chain link fences. I have not noticed any difference in performance, rain or shine, in the boom is wood and can soak up water. Find the balance point, get a U-bolt and mount it on what you can. It works! (plan courtesy of WIRE ANTENNAS.

Al, W7SIC



OTVARC Club Contacts

OTVARC Executive Board			
President	Betty Mickley	N7REX	642-1284
Vice President	J.D. Fort	K7JDF	259-0269
Secretary	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP	638-7768
Treasurer	Hanford Van Ness	KE7BB	246-7975
Trustee	Jack Smithson	KA7HOJ	646-1873
Trustee	Will Sheffield	N7THL	642-7314
Trustee	Janet Bell	WB7FJC	648-4147
Trustee	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Trustee	Maureen O'Rourke	KA7LAP	591-9641
	Other Club Contacts		
ARRL Coordinator	Bob Orr	WF7Q	472-2716
Bunny Hunting	OPEN		
Contesting	OPEN		
DX News	OPEN		
Equipment Loan	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Equipment Valuation	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Equipment Trustee	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Emergency Services	J.D. Fort	K7JDF	259-0269
Field Day Cordinator	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	636-2237
Healthe & Welfare	Mary Berg	N7TRW	640-5456
Historian	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Internet Home Page	Marc Chamberlin	WA7PXW	357-1869
Member Badges	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Newsletter Editor	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP	638-7768
Newsletter Layout	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP	638-7768
Newsletter Distribution	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Nominating Committee	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Packet - Club BBS	Rick Braun	KB7OGD	645-1490
Project Night	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	636-2237
	Chuck Mickley	KI7CL	652-1284
Public Relations	J.D. Fort	K7JDF	259-0269
Public Service	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Repeater	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
RFI & TVI	Dale Mosby	K7FW	640-0217
Satellites	Open		
Scholarship	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Sea*Pac	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
"	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
"	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
"	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Station Trustee	Chuck Mickley	KI7CL	642-3713
Social	Harold Landers	WA0BRU	620-5041
Technical Specialist	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Tower Ordinances	Greg Milnes	W7AGQ	648-6990
Trailer	Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Training(code)	Burt Rooke(PCC)	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(Novice/Tech)	Burt Rooke(PCC)	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(upgrade)	OPEN		
VE Test Coordinator	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
VHF/UHF	Arnold Jensen	N7YAG	543-3713

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OTVARC Club Information

Purpose: The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a Not-for-profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service, through the following five objectives:

1. Education & Training of new and licensed Amateurs.
2. Public Service during public events & community activities.
3. Emergency communications during emergencies & disasters.
4. Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets & contests.
5. Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

Special Service Club: OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The ARRL grants us this distinction due to our participation in emergency preparedness exercises, public service events and other service-oriented programs. In addition, continuing educational and training programs are conducted for FCC licenses. OTVARC benefits from you joining the ARRL through OTVARC. To join or renew your membership in the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

Newsletter: The *OTVARC Oscillator* is the club newsletter. It is published monthly and is usually mailed on the first of the month. The opinions, views, and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the club, its officers, advertisers or the editorial staff.

Correspondence: All correspondence may be sent to OTVARC, PO Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

Advertising: Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size desired. All display ads run for six months at a time, from January through June and July through December. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates are as follows:

Full page	8" X 10"	$200 for six months
Half page	8" X 5"	$120 for six months
Qtr page	4" X 5"	$72 for six months
Bus.Card	2" X 3"	$36 for six months

Meetings: We have two meetings per month. The board meeting is on the fourth Wednesday of each month. All club business is conducted at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Contact the President for location and time. The general meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Lodge. 3500 SW 104th Ave. (1 block north of Canyon Road). Meetings start at 7PM. If you would like to come early, you can get a nice meal from the Elks for less than $6.00.

Membership: OTVARC is open to anyone who is interested in amateur radio. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join. Dues are as follows: Full member, $10/yr; Associate member (non-licensed), $10/yr; Family members of full member, $5/yr; Life memberships available - see the Treasurer. Only full members and life members may vote on club business and serve as club officers. All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you would like to join during the year, see the club treasurer for prorated dues.

How to join: Simply mail the Membership application and/or renewal form along with your dues to the address above.

1998 marks OTVARC's twentieth year as an active club!
Please help celebrate this anniversary by contacting any club officer with your ideas on possible anniversary activities.

METROPOLITAN AMATEUR'S PICNIC SET FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 1998

Submitted by Geno, KA7KBH

Attention Grid Square CN85 residents, the **Metropolitan Amateur's Picnic** has been organized by a group of amateur radio clubs in the greater Portland area. The event will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. September 12, 1998 at Red Sunset Park in Gresham, Oregon. Family members and non-ham friends are welcome. Amateurs not affiliated with a club can come and see the clubs.

The organizers will provide hamburgers and hot dogs. Attendees are requested to bring their own beverage (no alcohol) and either a salad or a dessert. Plates and utensils will be provided. The cost will be $1.00 per person, children age 11 and under are free. The maximum charge will be $4.00 per family. Please, no pets. The picnic location will be under two ample shelters to rain is not a worry.

The theme for this year's picnic is public service.

Red Sunset Park is located in Gresham, OR on Red Sunset Drive South of Hogan Road (242 d) between Stark Street and Burnside Street., The talk-in frequency is 147.28MHz.

Each club is asked to organize an sign-up list and report expected attendance to Gene Buell.

The chairman of the event is Gene Buell, KA7KBH, (503) 614-0563. Non club members please RSVP to Gene. Radio clubs will be organizing sign-up lists.

OTVARC
OregonTualatin Valley ARC
PO Box 5132
Aloha, OR 97006-0132

Address Correction Requested

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PORTLAND, OR 972 AUG 5 PM 1998

USA 32

~~Al Buell W7SJE~~
~~Mary Noel @ NWDRW~~
~~6955 SE Oak Crest Dr~~
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